

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAR ES 00054 061211Z  
ACTION IO-14

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R 061130Z JAN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM  
TO USIA WASHDC  
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USIAC

STATE FOR IO/UNESCO - MR. HEATER AND MR. HARTLEY

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJ: 20TH UNESCO GENERAL CONFERENCE - COMMUNICATIONS  
ASSISTANCE TO LCDS

REF: USIA 36371 CIRCULAR - U

1. DECLARATIONS ABOUT "DUTIES" AND "RESPONSIBILITIES" OF THE NEWS MEDIA WILL STRIKE A RESPONSIVE CHORD IN TANZANIA WHERE THE ENTIRE MEDIA ESTABLISHMENT IS GOVERNMENT-OWNED AND GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED, AND A TANZANIAN DELEGATION AT THE 20TH UNESCO GENERAL CONFERENCE PROBABLY WOULD GO ALONG WITH A GENERALLY ACCEPTED THIRD WORLD POSITION ON A RESOLUTION ENCOMPASSING THESE CONCEPTS.

2. THERE ALREADY EXISTS ON THE BOOKS IN TANZANIA AMPLE LEGISLATION FOR COMPLETE CONTROL AND CENSORSHIP OF THE MEDIA, BOTH DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN OPERATING IN THE COUNTRY. HOWEVER, THIS HAS BEEN LARGELY IN ABEYANCE BOTH BECAUSE THE MEDIA ESTABLISHMENT IN TANZANIA EXERCISES VERY COMPLETE

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SELF-CENSORSHIP, AND ALSO BECAUSE TANZANIAN AUTHORITIES AT THE WORKING LEVEL HAVE COME TO SEE A COOPERATIVE APPROACH TO OUTSIDE MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES AS IN TANZANIA'S OWN INTER-ESTS. THERE IS NO CENSORSHIP OF STORIES FILED LOCALLY AND, WITHIN THE LIMITS OF THE RESOURCES AT THEIR HANDS, INFORMATION MINISTRY OFFICIALS HAVE GONE OUT OF THEIR WAY TO ASSIST FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS.

3. THERE IS ALSO A MOVE IN THE TANZANIAN COMMUNICATIONS ESTABLISHMENT TO MAKE ITS OWN OPERATIONS BOTH MORE PROFESSIONAL AND MORE SELF-SUPPORTING. IN THIS CONNECTION THERE IS A READY WILLINGNESS TO COOPERATE WITH WESTERN COUNTRIES. ZANZIBAR TV, FOR EXAMPLE, HAS SOUGHT AND RECEIVED HELP BOTH IN EQUIPMENT AND TRAINING FOR ITS PERSONNEL. REQUESTS MADE DIRECTLY TO USIS HAVE GREATLY EXCEEDED OUR ABILITY TO RESPOND, ALTHOUGH ZANZIBAR TV PERSONNEL HAVE BEEN THE RECIPIENTS OF THREE IV MULTI-REGIONAL PROJECT GRANTS AS WELL AS THE HOSTS FOR AN AMERICAN SPECIALIST WHO WORKED WITH THEM. THE RECENTLY ESTABLISHED NATIONAL NEWS AGENCY, SHIHATA, IS UNDER STRONG PRESSURE FROM THE GOVERNMENT TO BE AS SELF-SUPPORTING AS POSSIBLE. SHIHATA OFFICIALS RECOGNIZE THAT NOT ONLY MUST THEY BE PROFESSIONALLY QUALIFIED BUT THEY MUST ALSO UPGRADE THEIR EXPERTISE IN MANAGEMENT AND HAVE BEEN ACTIVELY SEEKING TRAINING IN THIS AREA IN THE WEST. HERE AGAIN THE DEMAND IS GREATER THAN CERTAINLY USIS CAN MEET. SHIHATA PEOPLE HAVE BEEN EARMARKED FOR POSSIBLE PARTICIPATION IN FUTURE MULTI-REGIONAL PROJECTS AND ONE PROMISING YOUNG STAFFER HAS BEEN SELECTED FOR A FULBRIGHT GRANT TO DO A COMBINED COURSE IN ADMINISTRATION AND JOURNALISM IN THE US NEXT YEAR.

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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